

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims to read as indicated below.

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:  
connecting a configuration device to a coupling location of an intelligent unit to which the intelligent unit has to be adapted in a system,  
wherein the configuration device is not a component of said intelligent unit, and  
wherein the configuration device is part of a permanent wiring of the coupling location, to which the intelligent unit can be coupled, or is associated with a connecting device disposed at the coupling location for connection of the intelligent unit, and wherein the configuration device thus always remains at the coupling location to which the intelligent unit has to be adapted even if the intelligent unit is replaced; and  
storing configuration data in the configuration device,  
wherein the configuration data comprises behaviour or function description data, which is based in each case on the coupling location of the intelligent unit, to which the intelligent unit has to be adapted, and  
wherein the configuration data can be transmitted from the configuration device to a logic device that processes the configuration data for configuration of the intelligent unit in order to adapt the intelligent unit to the coupling location.
2. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the following steps:  
provisioning the intelligent unit with the logic device;  
coupling the intelligent unit to the configuration device; and  
transmitting the configuration data from the configuration device to the logic device.
3. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:  
transmitting data from the intelligent unit to the configuration device; and  
storing the data from the intelligent unit in the configuration device.

4. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising matching data between the intelligent unit and the configuration device.

5. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the intelligent unit is in a network.

6. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storing and/or the transmitting of the configuration data is carried out as a single step, or as a repeatable step.

7. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storing and/or the transmitting of the configuration data is performed securely.

8. (currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a configuration device associated to a coupling location of an intelligent unit to which the

intelligent unit has to be adapted in a system and having configuration data stored therein, wherein the configuration device is not a component of said intelligent unit, and

wherein the configuration device is part of a permanent wiring of the coupling location, to which the intelligent unit can be coupled, ~~or is associated with a connecting device disposed at the coupling location for connection of the intelligent unit~~, and wherein the configuration device thus always remains at the coupling location to which the intelligent unit has to be adapted even if the intelligent unit is replaced,

wherein the configuration data comprises behaviour or function description data, which is based in each case on the coupling location of the intelligent unit, to which the intelligent unit has to be adapted, and

wherein the configuration data is transmittable from the configuration device to a logic device that processes the configuration data for configuration of the intelligent unit in order to adapt the intelligent unit to the coupling location.

9. (canceled).

10. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the configuration device can be connected to the logic device for processing of the  
configuration data for configuration of the intelligent unit in such a way that the  
configuration data can be transmitted at least from the configuration device to the logic  
device.
11. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the intelligent unit has the logic device associated therewith for processing of the  
configuration data for configuration of the intelligent unit, and  
wherein the intelligent unit can be connected to the configuration device in such a way that the  
configuration data can be transmitted at least from the configuration device to the logic  
device for configuration of the intelligent unit.
12. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claims 8,  
wherein the intelligent unit is within a network.
13. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the intelligent unit has a system component.
14. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the configuration data comprises an address and/or a component identification.
15. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the logic device transmits data to the configuration device.
16. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the configuration device receives and stores data from the logic device.
- 17 - 19. (canceled).

20. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the configuration device is for storage, reading and/or processing of further data.
21. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the data of the configuration device is variable, readable and/or processable by remote  
control and/or externally.
22. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the configuration device and the intelligent unit have complementary means for  
provision of a unidirectional and/or bidirectional data transmission connection.
23. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the configuration device is equipment for an automation system.
24. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed claim 8,  
wherein the configuration device and/or the logic device have hardware and/or software  
elements.
25. (previously presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 8,  
wherein the logic device is part of the configuration device or part of a further device which can  
be connected to the configuration device.
26. (canceled).
27. (previously presented) A system having at least one apparatus as claimed in claim 8.
28. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 27, wherein the system is adapted for  
operation of an automation system.

29 - 30. (canceled).

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said configuration data comprises an address and/or a component identification.

32. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the complementary means for provision of a unidirectional and/or bidirectional data transmission connection comprises a component selected from the group consisting of a screw-in connector, a plug-in connector, a contact-based connector, an optical connector and a radio connector.